

## Message Text

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15

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 AGR-20

AID-20 COME-00 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-07 SS-20 STR-08 CEA-02 FEA-02

INT-08 DRC-01 /200 W

----- 087908

R 251136Z MAR 74

FM AMCONSUL BUKAVU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 257

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMCONSULATE KISANGANI

AMCONSULATE LUBUMBASHI

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON, EGEN, CG

SUBJECT: ECONOMIC REPORT - KIVU

1. MANY IMPORTED PRODUCTS (E.G., BUTTER, CERTAIN TEXTILES) NOW UNAVAILABLE IN BUKAVU. PRICES ARE MOUNTING ON MANY ITEMS STILL AVAILABLE INCLUDING SOME PRODUCED IN ZAIRE. SEVERAL EXAMPLES INCREASED PRICES: BOTTLE OF PALM OIL FORMERLY COSTING 15 TO 20 MAKUTA, NOW 40 MAKUTA; SACK OF DRIED FISH, 14 ZAIRES TO 25 ZAIRES; ONE DRINKING GLASS FULL OF RICE (FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT AFFORD OUTLAY FOR A WHOLE SACK), 5 K TO SEVEN K. PRICES GATHERED AT MARKET IN CITE HERE MARCH 9 AND MARCH 16.

2. FUEL CRISES HAS EASED IN RECENT WEEKS AND SOME SPECULATORS HOLDING LARGE QUANTITIES OF FUEL NOW ACTIVELY SEEKING BUYERS. TWO WEEKS AGO ASKING PRICE FOR A BARREL OF GAS WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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50 ZAIRES; THIS HAS NOW SUNK TO 40 Z.

3. IN MARCH 17 CONVERSATION WITH LOCAL DIRECTORS OF  
BANQUE DU ZAIRE AND BANQUE DU PEUPLE (BOTH ZAIRIAN), I  
FOUND THAT THEY SHARED CONCERNS OF BELGIAN DIRECTORS BANQUE  
COMM. ZAIROISE AND UNION ZAIROISE DES BANQUES MENTIONED  
EARLIER REPORTS ABOUT CREDIT-WORTHINESS MANY OF NEW PROPRI-  
ETORS. BOTH MEN COMPLAINED ABOUT RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY  
KIVU REGIONAL ASSEMBLY OF  
MPR MEETING AT IRSAC PROCEEDING DAY WHICH CALLED ON ALL  
BANKS TO BE FORTHCOMING IN GRANTING CREDIT TO NEW OWNERS.  
MOKABI OF BANQUE DU PEUPLE COMMENTED THAT QTE MY BANK  
DOESN'T WANT TO LOSE MONEY UNQTE; THEREFORE, HOW COULD HE  
AUTHORIZE, MUCH LESS RECOMMEND, LOANS TO BUSINESSMEN WHOSE  
REPUTATION OR CAPACITIES WERE STILL UNKNOWN TO HIM. QTE  
I'D FIRE MY MOST JUNIOR CLERK IF HE DID THAT UNQTE.

4. BOTH MEN SPOKE HOPEFULLY OF PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO  
REVIEW ALL ASSIGNMENTS OF ENTERPRISES TO NEW OWNERS,  
EXPRESSING HOPE THAT SOME OF MORE OBVIOUSLY UNQUALIFIED  
WOULD BE WINNOWNED OUT.

5. DIASEVI OF BANQUE DU ZAIRE REMARKED QTE EVERYONE KNOWS  
THAT THE PEOPLE WHO GOT TO KINSHASA QUICKLY ENOUGH AND/OR  
HAD HIGH ENOUGH CONTACTS IN THE GOVERNMENT OF MPR GOT AN  
ENTERPRISE UNQTE AND ADDED QTE BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THEY  
ARE QUALIFIED TO RUN IT UNQTE.

6. COMMETT: I WAS MILDLY SURPRISED TO HEAR APPLICATION OF  
NEW ECONOMIC MEASURES CRITICIZED SO OPENLY. BUT DISCONTENT  
AMONG THE MANY WHO DID NOT BENEFIT FROM THE TAKE-OVERS IS  
CERTAINLY MOUNTING IN KIVU. IT IS STILL TOO EARLY HOWEVER,  
TO SEE EXACTLY HOW FAR THIS WILL GO OR WHAT FORM IT WILL  
TAKE.  
LOVING

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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